AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A method of processing data packets, comprising:

receiving a plurality of the data packets at a selected node;

extracting only pertinent information from the data packets while ignoring non-

pertinent information from the data packets, the pertinent information being pertinent to said

5   selected node;

generating a plurality of response data packets based on the pertinent information,

wherein said extracting and generating steps are performed without use of a microprocessor;

and

transmitting a signal indicating that the response data packets should be sent.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A data packet communication system, comprising:

a peripheral device;

a filter device connected to said peripheral device, said filter device being configured

to receive a plurality of data packets and identify only pertinent information in said data

5   packets while ignoring non-pertinent information from said data packets, said pertinent

information being pertinent to said peripheral device;

a packet generator connected to said peripheral device and said filter device, said

packet generator being configured to generate a plurality of response data packets based on

said pertinent information,

10   wherein said packet generator is configured to transmit said response data packets; and

wherein said filter device is configured to transmit a signal indicating that said

response data packets should be generated.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein said packet generator is configured to

transmit said response data packets to a packetized data network.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising a protocol state machine

configured for receiving the signal from said filter device and issuing a request to said packet

generator to transmit said response data packets.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A data packet communication device, comprising:

a filter device configured to receive a plurality of data packets and identify only

pertinent information in said data packets while ignoring non-pertinent information from said

data packets; and

5   a packet generator configured to generate a plurality of response data packets based on

said pertinent information,

wherein said filter device is configured to transmit a signal indicating that said

response data packets should be generated.

27. (Previously presented) The device of claim 26, further comprising a protocol state machine configured for receiving the signal from said filter device and issuing a request to said packet generator to transmit said response data packets.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)